

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: John A. Russo
City Manager 

Date: September 6, 2011

Re: Approve a Consultant Agreement for \$23,830 with Thunderbird
Communications, Inc. for the City of Alameda's Pump Stations System
Control and Data Acquisition Equipment

BACKGROUND

The City of Alameda uses the System Control and Data Acquisitions (SCADA) System to monitor the control and alarm functions of the City's 55 sanitary and storm pump stations. The automated system also controls lagoon water levels for the Harbor Bay Island lagoon systems. The telemetry link for the system control is accomplished by high frequency radio transmissions. Thunderbird Communications, Inc. has maintained the computer and radio equipment for the past fifteen years.

DISCUSSION

Thunderbird personnel possess the skills, experience, background, and knowledge to provide the services required. Their personnel developed the specialized software for the City after the SCADA system was purchased in 1995. The following is a brief description of the maintenance services provided:

1. Maintenance servicing and troubleshooting of all the Radio Transmission Units (RTUs), including antennas, cables, Human Machine Interface (HMI), paging, dial-on access, computers, printers, networks, and associated modules.
2. RTU programming enhancements.
3. Computer programming enhancements.
4. Labor for software upgrades.
5. System documentation.

Thunderbird has provided excellent and highly responsive service to the City since 1996. In accordance with Section 2-59.3 of the Alameda Municipal Code, City Council approval is required for any contract that extends beyond five years. Staff requests approval to enter into an agreement with Thunderbird through June 30, 2012, with the ability to annually extend the contract for up to four additional years, based on mutual

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agreement and satisfactory performance of all aspects of the contract. Thunderbird is specially trained, experienced, and competent to perform the services. They have a good working relationship with the Public Works Department staff and are responsive to questions and concerns. A copy of the contract is on file in the City Clerk's office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The funds for this project are budgeted in the Public Works Department's account for Capital Improvement Program (5439010) SCADA with monies allocated from the Sewer Service Fund (Fund 602). There is no impact to the General Fund.

MUNICIPAL CODE/POLICY DOCUMENT CROSS REFERENCE

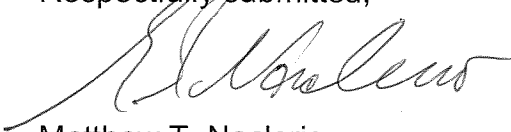
This action is authorized pursuant to Subsection 2-59.3 of the Alameda Municipal Code.

RECOMMENDATION:

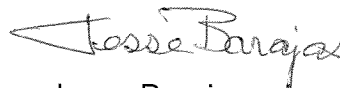
Approve a consultant agreement for \$23,830 with Thunderbird Communications, Inc. for the City of Alameda's pump stations SCADA equipment.

Respectfully submitted,

By,



Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director



Jesse Barajas
Public Works Superintendent

Approved as to funds and account,



Fred Marsh
Controller

Exhibit:

1. Agreement - on file in the City Clerk's Office